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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 1 June 1949

SUBJECT Screening of SED Members and SAG Personnel;
Notes on Police in the Russian Zone

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1. Shortly before the lifting of the blockade all Soviet AG's in Berlin were ordered by SAG headquarters to fire employees living in the western sectors of Berlin. This order was not rescinded after the lifting of the blockade.
2. On about 12 May SED personnel functionaries in at least one district in the Soviet sector were ordered to evaluate education, experience, and capabilities of all reliable party members under their jurisdiction. On the basis of these evaluations rosters are to be prepared specifically recommending individuals for municipal government posts. The order explained that these reports are for the purpose of lining up suitable city employees who would be needed after "the return to freedom and unity in Berlin".
3. On 19 May the Soviet director general of one large Soviet AG in Berlin ordered his personnel manager to submit a roster of all employees with former military service showing name, year of mobilization, branch, length of service, and campaigns. The director took the completed roster personally directly to the SIA in Karlshorst on 20 or 21 May.
4. [REDACTED] the "Ring um Berlin" district is required to furnish a quota of 2,000 men for this duty. So far as possible former police, particularly district leaders, are to be selected.
5. The organization of factory guards is proceeding in the Soviet sector without change. One factory employing about 2,000 (sic) workers has an armed guard of about thirty men, and its selection, organization, and equipment have been of major interest. An MGB political officer has been responsible for the plant for the past five weeks.*

* [REDACTED] Comment: Implications are that the Soviets lifted the blockade only for the purpose of gaining a short period to strengthen anti-western measures and to import needed materials.

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